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Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury State University

Center Reaches New Era With Staffing Increase

Salisbury State University has greatly enhanced the services of its Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture by committing to the addition of two additional staff persons. With the gift in October 1996 of the 10,000 volume collection of the late Wilcomb E. Washburn, eminent historian and 30-year director of American history at the Smithsonian, and with the recent influx of other valuable collections, the center was in need of additional staff to properly catalogue and conserve the materials. In October the University agreed to hire a cataloguer and to share in the expense of a research assistant in part with the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society and center board member Shea O'Neal of Georgetown, D.C.

Emily R. Novak recently obtained a Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) from the School of Information Science and Policy at the State University of New York at Albany, having previously graduated from that institution with a B.A. in English and education in 1995. Her employment history includes working for the Project on the History of Black Writing based at Northeastern University, Boston, MA; interning with Special Collections at the New York State Library; working for the Albany (NY) City School District as a records inventory clerk; and serving as a manager for an independent film house from 1992-97. In December 1997, Novak relocated to Salisbury from Troy, NY, to assume the position of cataloguer at the Research Center.

Corinne Les Callette is returning to the SSU campus as the RCDHC research assistant. From 1959-77 she assisted her late husband, Dr. Millard G. Les Callette, in his work as professor of history at Salisbury State, including researching and typing his joint effort with Reginald Truitt, *Worcester County, Maryland's Arcadia.* Currently, Les Callette is president of the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Committee, which has been recognized by the State of Maryland and is pursuing status as a certified heritage area. Also, she is chair of the Salisbury-Wicomico County Planning and Zoning Commission and president of the Mason-Dixon District Exchange Clubs.

Both women commenced employment at the Research Center on January 5, immediately familiarizing themselves with the holdings and assisting Director Becky Miller. Novak has almost completed a Web page for the Research Center and has been busy training students and volunteers in preliminary cataloguing of our backlog of materials. Les Callette greets all visitors and assists patrons and students in their research requests.

Please join us in welcoming our new staff when next you visit.

Fitzgerald Mourned

With regret we recognize the passing of long-time board of directors member George Barton Fitzgerald Jr. on August 12, 1997, at age 89. Fitzgerald had been on the Research Center's board since 1988, representing Somerset County. Known as "Mr. Princess Anne" (the town in which he was born and died), Fitzgerald was an extraordinarily civic-minded individual—not only in Somerset County, but Wicomico County as well—and was beloved by all who knew him.

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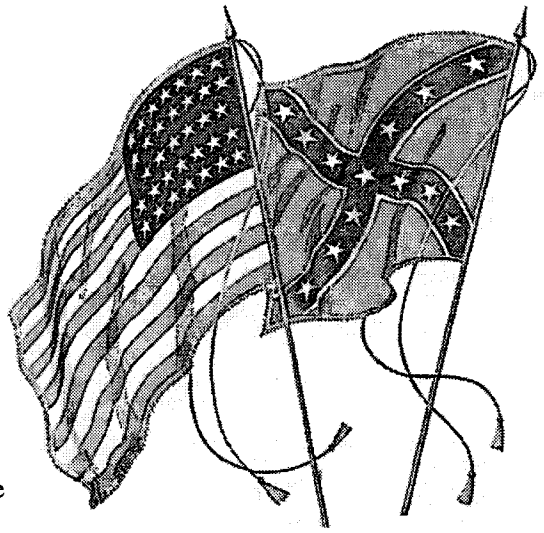
Sons of Confederate Veterans Has Regiment Organization

by Edward Maddox



The Sons of Confederate Veterans organization was founded in 1896. It is a voluntary association of descendants of those who served in the military of the Confederate States of America. It strives to give an understanding of the sacrifices their ancestors made in the defense of their conscientious convictions.

SCV members possess a keen interest in the preservation and remembrance of the deeds and accomplishments of their forefathers. Members gather monthly for presentations, lectures, area excursions and other activities. The SCV also supports the efforts of the United Daughters of the Confederacy as they carry on traditional memorial services, and preserve Southern culture.

To be eligible to join, one must be at least 16 years of age, a male descendant (either direct or collateral) of someone who served in the Confederate Army or Navy and able to provide documented descent. The SCV has a number of member volunteers who can help guide genealogical research should interested parties require assistance.

Maryland has nine local SCV chapters, which are called "camps." The Eastern Shore is covered by the Capt. James I. Waddell, CSN, Camp 1608 located in Annapolis. Presently, there are three members from the lower Shore of Maryland (Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset counties) and about 10 more prospects who have expressed interest. Although it may not be convenient to travel regularly to Annapolis for meetings, if enough people from lower Delmarva join the Waddell Camp, a brand new and more convenient camp could be established through transfers—most likely in the Salisbury area.

The Waddell Camp meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the West Annapolis Firehall located at 121 Jennifer Road approximately 0.8 miles east of the Annapolis Mall. All meetings are open to the public and anyone is most welcome to attend prior to joining. For more information write Sons of Confederate Veterans, Camp 1608, P.O. Box 1751, Millersville, MD 21108 or call Ed Maddox at 410-987-5524. You may also visit our Web site at members.tripod.com/~SCV1608.

Worcester Deed Abstracts

The abstracts from the rediscovered Worcester County deed books AF, AG and AH covering transactions between May 1815 and June 1818 are in print and available from the Research Center for the price of $9.50. Through the labor of the volunteer staff of the Worcester County Library—principally Fay Brooks, Jeanne Townsend and Anne Kinstler—the records were read and abstracted. The instruments of writing contained in this publication are publicly available for the first time since the courthouse volumes were destroyed by the November 1834 fire which consumed much of central Snow Hill.

The Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society is permitting the RCDHC to sell the abstracts as a fund raising tool, one of our "Studies in the Primary Sources of the Lower Eastern Shore" series. Many thanks to all involved and for supporting the center.

MD Genealogical Society Sponsors Seminar on Early Settlers of Maryland

March 20 and 21 are the dates for a seminar on Early Maryland Settlers to be held at the Comfort Inn, Westminster, MD. Featured is speaker Peter Wilson Coldham, eminent authority on English emigration to the Americas and author of *The Complete Book of Emigrants 1607-1660, English Estates of American Colonists* and *English Adventurers and Emigrants*. Coldham will lecture on the early migration from the British Isles to America, the records on both sides of the Atlantic and the significance thereof. For details write MD Genealogical Seminar, Rear 63, E. Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157-5036, or call 800-876-6103.

Shore Residents Edit Book

The history of Virginia's Barrier Islands from 1650 to the present is detailed in a collection of writings and illustrations, *Seashore Chronicles: Three Centuries of the Virginia Barrier Islands*, edited by Brooks Miles Barnes and Barry R. Truitt. Barnes is librarian at the Eastern Shore Public Library and a member of the board of directors of the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture. Truitt is director of science and stewardship at the Nature Conservancy's Virginia Coast Reserve.

The history of Virginia's barrier islands is presented in a varied collection of writings and illustrations which capture the history of the islands in a cyclical story of economic settlement.

The 288-page book is $24.95 and is available from University Press of Virginia, Box 3608 University Station, Charlottesville, VA 22903-0608. Telephone 804-924-6064.

Barnes donated a copy of the book to the Research Center for its collection.

Upper Shore Genealogical Society Hosts Silver Ancestor Jubilee

The Upper Shore Genealogical Society will host a symposium with a full day of speakers on Saturday, April 25, at St. Michaels, MD. The theme for the day will be "Colonial Ways & Means." The Society consists of over 400 members, representing five Eastern Shore of Maryland counties: Kent, Queen Annes, Caroline, Talbot and Dorchester. It is sure to be an informative and enjoyable day. For further information on speakers and registration, please contact the society at P.O. Box 275, Easton, MD 21601 or Joseph A. Dickerson by e-mail: joebeaches@aol.com.

Western Maryland Scholar Studies Shore Tories

by Patrick Reed, Ph.D.

Few events are more important to an understanding of American history than the American Revolution. Nonetheless, in many ways it remains, as William Nelson pointed out over 20 years ago, "downright elusive; nothing seems certain about it: what it was about, how and why it happened, when or perhaps even whether it happened." That "elusiveness" has haunted historians since the 18th century and has made the Revolution one of the most directly and indirectly studied episodes of America's past.

Maryland's Eastern Shore counties of Worcester and Somerset are, like most of colonial America, made up of isolated, rural communities in which the parochial nature of society limited individuals' horizons. The Eastern Shore contained communities in which political power, in terms of suffrage and local office-holding, was broadly dispersed but nonetheless limited by the importance of deference and consensus in 18th-century colonial life. These communities also imposed very real limits on an individual's right to oppose the majority's will.

It was in such isolated and semi-autonomous communities that the Revolution was fought and won, for the American Revolution was just as significant as a social movement as a political one. Indeed, any student of the Revolution must start from the premises that the Patriots, not the Loyalists, were "created." And that process, in which recognizable "Patriot" groups formed, took place within the traditional context of deferential and consensual community life. The same process had significant results. It reinforced loyalty to England for some people and for others, perhaps a substantial majority of colonists, it simply created confusion. The latter group, the so-called "trimmers," shifted their allegiance with the tides of local military and political fortunes—damning the rebels or the Redcoats depending on which side posed the greatest personal threat.

In mid-1775 and again in 1777 Worcester and Somerset counties were believed to be the site of Tory conspiracies aiming to defeat the Patriot cause. Indeed, that fear was so great in 1777 that the Maryland Council of Safety dispatched 3,000 militiamen to the area to deal with the perceived threat. What followed was the arrest and confinement of a significant number of the counties' citizens. Yet, we know very little about those men and why they undertook actions that so frightened the newly formed Patriot government. Historians have simply accepted the characterization that these men were "Tories" with all its unstated ideological implications. Yet the men so accused in Worcester and Somerset counties do not fit the traditional model of who Tories were. They were not, for the most part, men with substantial political or personal ties to England. They were not merchants, placemen nor clerics of the Church of England.

My research, drawing heavily on the collections in the holdings of the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture, aims to identify those Worcester and Somerset county men labeled as Tories, and to locate them within the complex web of the counties' social, economic and political life. The mid-18th century was a period of shrinking opportunity for many colonists. Land was becoming increasingly expensive and difficult to obtain. Family estates had, over time, been divided to the point that any further division of land between sons would have been economic suicide. My initial investigation indicates that many of the Eastern Shore's "Tories" were the second or third sons in families who found themselves with little or no inheritance from their family's estate. While this pattern of diminishing wealth was not unique to the Eastern Shore, on Maryland's mainland, western expansion was a viable option for younger sons who found themselves without a share of the family's landed estate. The Chesapeake Bay, while it brought wealth to the colony, also stood as a barrier to the Eastern Shore's younger sons, limiting both their physical and emotional options. Was their "Toryism" in reality a response to those limits? Were they "Tories" at all, or were they an example of Carl Becker's and J. Franklin Jameson's internal social struggle within the American Revolution?

Fowler Collection Copied

Edward L. Fowler of Laurel, DE, is lending us his magnificent collection of documents chronicling the lives of the Elliott-Collins families of Laurel. The documents consist of a series of letters and memorabilia from the 19th into the early 20th century. The documents contain an overarching view of Delmarva. According to Fowler, the story of the Elliott-Collins family is the story of Laurel. The cost of the photocopies and the labor of copying is done through the courtesy of the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society. Pat Taylor has done all of the copying for us to date. This collection will not be catalogued and available for research until all copying is completed.

Announcing the

Wilcomb E. Washburn Student Prize in History

$500 Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Delmarva History by a Student at Salisbury State University

The RCDHC announces that nominations will be accepted until March 23, 1998, for the first annual Student History Prize, made possible through an endowment created by the William H. Donner Foundation of New York in honor of the late Wilcomb E. Washburn, a distinguished historian of the Smithsonian Institution and resident of Somerset County, Maryland. A simple nomination form is available from the Research Center.

Criteria for the award are as follows:

Recipient: Any student enrolled full- or part-time at SSU in 1997 or 1998.

Eligibility: Contribution must focus on history of the Chesapeake area with special emphasis on the Delmarva Peninsula and extensive use of primary documents. The facilities of the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture must have been used in preparation of the paper. History is defined as anything prior to 1950. All written material must be typed.

Examples: A paper or project submitted for a class or prepared independently of class. Projects may include photos, films or other media; re-creation of a historical event; exhibits; educational programs for students or adults; historical research; studies of material culture; historical archeology, etc.

Deadline: All applications and supporting data must be received by March 23, 1998.

The awardee will be selected by a committee comprised of members of the board of directors of the Research Center and the prize will be awarded at the 1998 Honors Convocation.

Volunteers Continue Assistance to Research Center

The Research Center has long depended upon assistance from volunteers who freely and generously give of their time and knowledge. Volunteerism at the Research Center continues in that tradition as the facility grows and develops.

Thanks are due to board member Pat Taylor for her regular and enduring help on Wednesdays (and other days, too) during the fall semester. We continue to count on her assistance on Thursdays this semester. Ever-faithful Polly Batchelder reports each Tuesday. Her long-term project has been cataloguing our valuable map collection so that it may be used to optimum advantage. Fay Brooks ably assisted on Monday afternoons, helping those seeking family heritage and researching genealogical mail and e-mail queries. Brooks is taking a sabbatical until May and we are looking forward to her return.

Our thanks to the members of the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society, who faithfully report on Monday evenings to staff the center from 5-9 p.m. Those members include Jeff Pilchard, Philip Goldsborough, Caroline Adkins, Betty Murrell, and Lloyd and Lucy Whitehead. Many thanks to the Whiteheads for coordinating this effort and always being there.

Appreciation is also extended to contributors to this newsletter, all members of the Research Center: Ed Maddox of Millersville, MD; Dr. Patrick Reed of Western Maryland College; Dick Cooper of Salisbury; and Dave Nutter of Rochester, NY. It takes the efforts of many to make our Research Center all that it can be. Many, many thanks to all our supporters, named and unnamed.

Research Center is Home to Delmarva Folk Arts Leadership Initiative

The Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation (MAAF) is the sponsor of a grant to support the development of leadership among folk and traditional arts organizations on the Delmarva Peninsula. The Delmarva Peninsula was identified as an area possessing a wealth of folk and traditional artists. The project will serve as a national model for interstate collaborations in the folk and traditional arts. The Delmarva Peninsula is home to Amish, African-American, Haitian, East Asian, Korean, Filipino, English, Guatemalan, Puerto Rican, Mexican, Costa Rican, Swedish, Nanticoke, Lenni Lenape, Pocomoke, Occohannock, Ukrainian and Irish communities. This diversity suggests a plethora of art forms, including secular and sacred music, gardening, embroidery, instrument making, beadwork, weaving, dance and mask making.

The project has begun with in-depth fieldwork to conduct background research and review existing collections and identify folk and traditional artists. To that end, the Research Center has agreed to provide a work base for folklorist Tom Walker as he gathers data from our area. In return, the Research Center will become the repository for the collections gathered.

This is a great opportunity for the Research Center to achieve national eminence by housing examples of the Peninsula's culture. Dr. Polly Stewart, SSU English professor and board member of the RCDHC, is working closely with Walker, as is RCDHC Director Becky Miller, to support him in this important project to identify and preserve the diverse heritage and culture of the Delmarva Peninsula.

MPT Reveals Center's Mystique

Did you see us on Maryland Public Television's *Maryland State of Mind*?

Producer Maureen McNeill (now of SSU's Advancement staff) created an exquisite six minute mini-view of the Research Center.

Talbert to the Rescue (Again)

We were in dire need of bookcases, so Dr. Bart Talbert of the History Department graciously volunteered his time to construct five for us. Assisting him were the Research Center's two graduate students, Dave Johnson (aka "Lucas") and Brad Marsh. Talbert has come to the aid of the center previously, as has Johnson. Gentlemen, we thank you.

SSU Commits to Equipment Needs

SSU has purchased a Checkpoint security system to safeguard the materials at the Research Center. Also, on order are two new computers and a printer.

Stewart Donates Scanner

Our good friend Dr. Polly Stewart recently donated to the Research Center a brand-new desktop scanner. We've been wanting one for some time but couldn't afford the luxury. This will enable us to scan items on premises.

Many thanks for the scanner, which is the latest in a series of gifts and continual kindnesses. Stewart was the primary editor of our Strategic Plan and works closely with the folklore collection at the RCDHC.

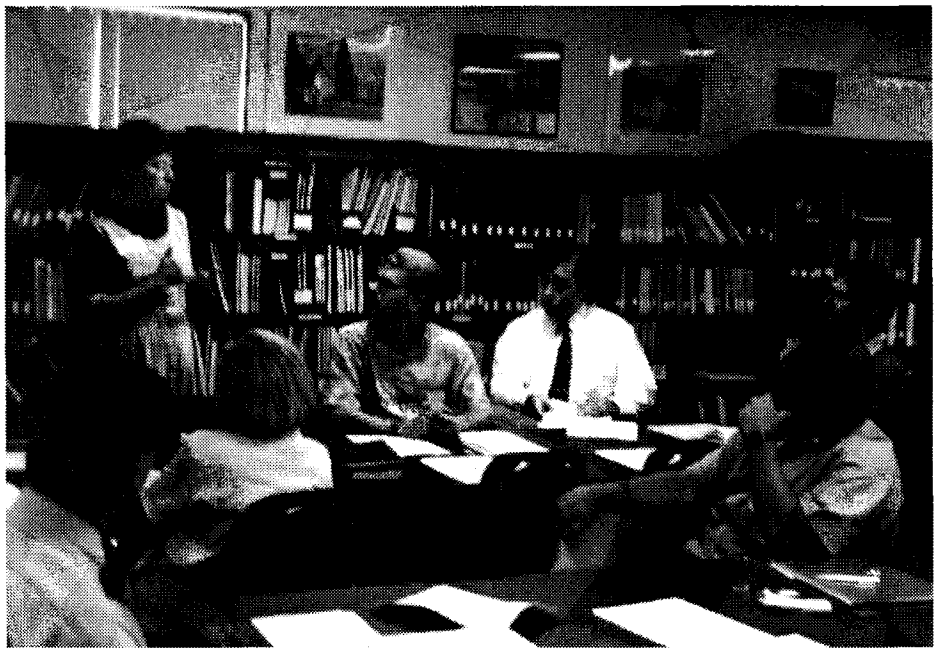
Please Donate!

A recent new visitor, Sam Todd of Salisbury, noticed our lack of books chronicling our Bay heritage of unique sailing craft. As you know, we rely on the generosity of our supporters to build our holdings. Therefore, the Research Center is seeking donations of the following out-of-print books for its collection:

Chesapeake Bay and Tidewater, A. Aubrey Bodine
Chesapeake Circle, Robert H. Burgess
Chesapeake Sailing Craft, Part I, Robert H. Burgess
Tidewater by Steamboat: A Saga of the Chesapeake, David C. Holly
Chesapeake Bay Schooners, Snediker & Jensen

Center Hosts Maryland History Day Workshop

The Research Center was the site of a workshop for an orientation on Maryland History Day, sponsored by Maryland's History Day Program in cooperation with SSU's Department of History. Educators from the tri-county area of Somerset, Worcester and Wicomico, as well as arts group leaders and SSU faculty, attended the workshop. The program was designed to introduce Maryland History Day to local historians, teachers, school administrators and interested community members. Discussed were objectives of the History Day Program, a nationally recognized history education program for middle and high school students, grades six through twelve. Ways in which local students can participate in local history and learn about historical resources available were discussed. History Day is a statewide activity and is held in March of each year.



Participants of the Maryland History Day Workshop included (from left) Doug Bloodsworth, Somerset County Board of Education; Kathy Fisher, Furnace Town; Jim McCallops, Dean Fafoutis and Bart Talbert, SSU History Department; and Joel Jenne, SSU Education Department.

Board Completes Strategic Plan

The board of directors of the Research Center is pleased to announce that its Strategic Planning Committee has completed *A Future for the Past: A Strategic Plan for the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture*. The plan is the culmination of many meetings and e-mails among the committee members. These dedicated board members, guided by Committee Chair E. Niel Carey of Ellicott City, MD, include B. Miles Barnes, Jane Bunting, George Gering (Board Chair), Greg Ference, Polly Stewart, Ray Thompson, Bert Thornton, Brooke Tompkins and Kathy Washburn. Ex officio members of the committee are Ronald Dotterer, dean of the Charles and Martha Fulton School of Liberal Arts at SSU; Mary Willis of the SSU Foundation Inc.; and Becky Miller, director of the Research Center.

The Strategic Plan will be printed by SSU's Publications Office and will be sent to board members prior to their March 19 meeting.

1997 Delmarva History Prize Awarded

The Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury State University is pleased to announce that the Delmarva History Prize for the best monograph published on the history of the Chesapeake Bay region was awarded for:

The Formation of a Society on Virginia's Eastern Shore: 1615-1655, by James R. Perry published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, VA, by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC

The annual $1,500 award is made possible through the generosity of the William H. Donner Foundation Inc., in honor of Wilcomb E. Washburn.

Dr. Maarten Pereboom, assistant dean of the Fulton School of Liberal Arts at SSU, represented the Research Center at a reception sponsored by the Omohundro Institute in Seattle, WA, in January. Pereboom is a donor to and supporter of the Research Center.

Research Center Member Authors Two Books

George Shivers, faculty member at Washington College in Chestertown, MD, and native of Allen in Wicomico County, will publish two volumes through the Allen Historical Society. Funds raised through the sale of the books will be used for the educational and preservation activities of the Allen Historical Society. The books are titled *Changing Times: Chronicle of Allen, MD, an Eastern Shore Village* ($40 + $2.50 shipping) and *The Ancestors and Descendants of Jonathan Huffington and Henrietta Adams* ($35 + $2.50 shipping).

Shivers is also the editor of *The Allen Historian*, the newsletter of the Allen Historical Society.

Publication of both volumes is expected by the fall of 1998, perhaps earlier. Interested parties may send inquiries to the Allen Historical Society Inc., Box 31, Allen, MD 21810 or pick up an Advance Book Order form at the Research Center.

Research Center Accepting Nominations for 1998 Delmarva History Prize

The Delmarva History Prize is a $1,500 award for outstanding contribution to Delmarva history in the subject of historical preservation.

The Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury State University announces that nominations will be accepted until September 1998 for the 2nd annual Delmarva History Prize, made possible through an endowment created by the W. F. Donner Foundation in honor of Wilcomb E. Washburn, a distinguished historian of the Smithsonian Institution and resident of Somerset County, MD. A simple nomination form is available from the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture, Salisbury State University, Power Professional Building 190, Wayne and Bradford Streets, Salisbury, MD 21801.

The subject focus for 1998 is historical preservation (site, documents, etc.).

Criteria for the award are as follows:

Recipient: Any person, group of persons, organization, government agency or school (secondary or college). Members of the board of directors of the Research Center are not eligible.

Eligibility: Contribution must focus on history of the Chesapeake area with special emphasis on the Delmarva Peninsula. Subject matter must be prior to 1950. Must exhibit commitment to excellent scholarship, historical accuracy and use of primary sources, when appropriate.

Examples: Preservation of historic sites, author of historic book or other material, re-creation of a historical event, exhibits at historical museums or societies, educational programs for students or adults, historical research, studies of material culture, historical archaeology, creation of historic districts.

Deadline: All applications must be received by September 1, 1998.

The award will be made by the RCDHC board of directors. Finalists will be visited or interviewed by a member of the board.

Winter Term Class at Center

Ten very busy students spent much of January at the Research Center as part of a graduate seminar experience, "Seventeenth Century Records as a Window to the Past." The seminar involved intensive research into a variety of Eastern Shore colonial records, from probate records (including bonds, wills, inventories and accounts), to an examination of a vast array of land records, patent, deeds, conveyances and deeds of gift, to court records (including litigation, bastardy, court cases of varying degrees) and orphans court records (involving guardianship and views and estimates), to an examination of the numerous kinds of records of vital statistics (immigration records, church records and court depositions).

Students learned "how to read" 17th century Northampton County records, comparing them with the much easier 18th century court records of Somerset County. After the initial struggle in interpreting the writing styles and peculiarities of the court scripts, students began to seriously study the contents of the records to see in what ways one can successfully re-create life on the Eastern Shore during the first century of European settlement. Students also came to see that, in many cases, a clear picture of the wealth and living conditions of individuals emerged. Court records added yet another dimension with previously hidden details of the lives of early settlers being brought to light. Students came to understand that learning to write history from original records is an involved, time-consuming, but rewarding process.

Board member Pat Taylor and the center's graduate students, Brad Marsh and David Johnson, were in the class. The skills they acquired will enable them to assist students in the Research Center.

Heritage Area Designated

In Context, a newsletter of the Maryland Historical Trust, announced in its November 1997 issue that the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority approved five applications for designation as Recognized Heritage Areas in Maryland at its September 30, 1997, meeting. One of those was the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area, which "will work to link the attractions in the towns and rural areas of Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties by trail, rail, water and road."

Historical and cultural travel is among the biggest trends in the travel industry and a study has indicated that historic travelers spend more time at their destinations than other travelers. We at the Research Center can attest to this trend due to our statistics on our out-of-town visitors who come from every point in the nation to visit our facility for research purposes.

For more information about the Maryland Heritage Areas Program or to receive a copy of the program guide, please contact the Maryland Historical Trust at 410-514-7600.

Miller Speaks at Laurel Historical Society

RCDHC Director Becky Miller spoke to the Laurel (DE) Historical Society on January 27 (the opening night of the Peninsula's initial seasonal nor'easter). Miller emphasized the holdings of the Research Center, both archival and microfilmed public records and their usefulness in the study of Delaware history. She also emphasized Sussex County's inherent connection with the tri-county area of Maryland and Accomack and Northampton counties in Virginia. A brief history of the settlement and migration patterns of the Peninsula was given. Miller invited attendees to visit the Research Center and discover the materials housed there.

Sussex County was formed out of Worcester County, MD, all of which was originally Somerset County, MD. Sussex County researchers should particularly appreciate the "one-stop shopping" resource at the Research Center.

A Memorial to the

Reverend John Huett Jr.

Founder of Stepney Parish on Maryland's Eastern Shore

To Be Located on the Site of the 1733 "Old Green Hill" Church on the Bank of the Wicomico River in Wicomico County, MD

A belated and yet most deserving effort is under way to recognize an important 17th century Eastern Shore civic leader and first Episcopal clergyman, the Reverend John Huett Jr. (1640-98), founder and first rector of Stepney Parish. While there are important memorials on the Eastern Shore to the Presbyterian minister Francis Makemie and to Francis Asbury, the first Methodist bishop, there is no tangible memorial to witness the work of Rev. Huett. The records show that for a long while he was a pre-eminent theologian in Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore, with a mission which included the present-day Maryland counties of Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester, as well as parts of Sussex County in Delaware.

Huett was the son of the Rev. Dr. John Huett Sr. and his first wife, a Miss Skinner, the daughter of Thomas Skinner, a London merchant-tailor. When the younger Huett first came to the Virginia colony in the 1660s, he left behind in England a dramatic family history. His father, the Rev. John Huett Sr. (1614-58), had been a leading Anglican and the dean of St. Gregory's by St. Paul's, a church near St. Paul's Cathedral in the heart of London. The older Huett's father, Thomas, had been a successful merchant-tailor in Lancashire and London, where John Sr., his youngest son, turned to the Church.

John Huett Sr. graduated from Pembroke College at Cambridge and received a Doctor of Divinity from Oxford, where the family lived in the 1640s. His history became a tragic one in the tumultuous Civil War, Commonwealth and Protectorate period of English history. He rose steadily in prominence as a minister, author and preacher; served as chaplain to King Charles I; was the friend of Isaak Walton (*The Compleat Angler*), John Evelyn (*The Diary of John Evelyn*) and Dr. Wilde and others at Oxford; and, after the Roundheads' victory in the Civil War, even officiated at the wedding of Oliver Cromwell's daughter, Mary. But in 1658 he was arrested, tried and convicted by the Cromwellian Protectorate because of charges that he was aiding the Royalists in their zeal to restore the exiled Charles II to the throne. In June of 1658, when the younger John was 17 years old, and in spite of pleas to spare his father made by Lady Fauconberg (nee Mary Cromwell) and Mrs. Claypole (nee Elizabeth Cromwell), the elder John Huett was beheaded in the Tower of London, leaving behind a series of gripping scenes memorialized by many authors including Antonia Frasier in her classic *Cromwell: The Lord Protector.*

We have a fascinating poem, titled "Considerations Against the Vanities of this World, and The Terrors of Death," which Dr. Huett wrote during his last night in the Tower. After the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, Dame Mary Huett, his second wife and the daughter of Bertie, 1st Earl of Lindsay, petitioned Parliament for reparations for her husband's execution and received an annuity of 100 pounds sterling. It is believed that a portion of this endowment was used by the younger John Huett to finance his education and his journey to America.

While learning the ways of the Old Somerset frontier during the 1660s and '70s, John Huett Jr. apparently returned twice to England, to be ordained first deacon and later priest by the Bishop of London, and returned permanently to Maryland in 1682 as a theologian and minister. He ministered with dedication to the peoples of the growing colony. We know that in the winter of 1682 he performed the wedding of "John Puckham, an Indian," whom Clayton Torrence in *Old Somerset* identifies as a Native American of the Monie Tribe, and "Jone Johnson, negro," whom Torrence believed to have been a member of a prominent 17th century free African-American family of the colony. We know that he lived with his wife, Rachel Battian Huett (later Evans), and daughters, Anne (later Nutter then Leckie) and Susanna (later Johnson), at his estate called "Contention," located just to the south of the surviving 1733 Old Green Hill church; that he built a brick house at Contention in the 1690s; and that his burial site is known to be located by the nearby bank of the Wicomico River.

By 1692, he had become a leader in religious affairs of the colony, was elected to serve in the new Maryland Provincial Legislature and preached as a chaplain at St. Mary's City, the state capitol at that time. Records show that meetings held in his house led to the formation of Stepney Parish in Somerset and facilitated the establishment of the Church of England in Maryland by the Vestry Act of 1692. Shortly before his death in 1698 he supervised the building of a first rough church on old Haste's Creek, a short distance northwest of the preserved 1733 church.

Several parties have come together to plan for the creation of a permanent memorial to Rev. Huett at Old Green Hill, including the Green Hill Church Preservation Committee, the Preservation Trust of Wicomico County and members of the Nutter and related families who are descendants of Christopher Nutter, a 17th century Eastern Shore Indian interpreter and planter, and his son Matthew, who married Rev. Huett's daughter Anne in the early 18th century. The name "Huett" has been passed down as a given name in several branches of the Nutter family for as many as eight generations. These groups have voiced their support for a soon-to-be-designed memorial which will take the form of a plaque to be located within the church site.

Approximately $1,000, or one half of the funds needed for the project, has been raised. Small donations are greatly appreciated. Your support for this very special effort would be welcome because it is only through your generosity that it can be brought to fruition.

Contributions should be made to the Rev. John Huett Memorial Committee, c/o H. Lay Phillips, 5480 Catchpenny Road, Quantico, MD 21826. Donations will be tax deductible.

This notice was submitted by Richard Waller Cooper (410-749-3655) and David G. Nutter (716-271-7940). Cooper is a local historian and a member of the board of directors of the Research Center, as well as a major donor to the center; Nutter is a member of the Research Center.

Archaeology Grants Sought

"Settlement Patterns in Colonial Worcester County, Md." is the title of a grant submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust by Salisbury State University and the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture. Edward Otter, adjunct faculty member at SSU, has prepared a grant request to fund an archaeological study in Worcester County. The study will focus on identifying settlement pattern changes through the prehistoric and historic past. The project will employ archaeological field work, archival data and study of the Maryland Historic Trust computerized site inventory to locate sites. One of the specific regions selected for study is the seaboard area of Worcester County (the upper part of Bogerternorton Hundred), an area in which historic document research has been undertaken by faculty and students in the History Department. This study should provide significant information not only on the settlement patterns of early Worcester County, but also information on who the settlers were and their economic and social standing.

Sponsored by the Preservation Trust Wicomico Inc., the grant "Nanticoke River Period of Contact Study-Wicomico County, MD" is the archaeological research proposal submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust. Virginia Busby from the University of Virginia, who has done considerable archaeological excavation in this area, is the project director. This study will identify and evaluate archaeological resources and use the findings to develop a cultural resource management plan. The study will be done in close association with the RCDHC.

This proposal is coordinated with local initiatives concerning cultural, historical and natural heritage preservation and economic development. The research orientation focuses on three significant themes in Maryland's heritage: Native American history and culture, early colonial settlement and interaction of these cultures. Falling within the historical territory of the Nanticoke Indians, the study area encompasses the site of their 17th century Reservation of Puckamee and lies directly across the river from the main village site, located north of Vienna at Chicone. Colonial documentary records provide little information on Indian culture and, thus, archaeological research proposed for this project can contribute significant new information to enhance our understanding and appreciation of this aspect of Maryland's heritage.

Busby is also planning an exhibit at the Research Center in April for Maryland Archaeology Month.

Membership Renewals Due

Annual Memberships became due on January 1, 1998, for the calendar year. Many of our readers paid when they visited. This is a reminder to our out-of-state friends to send checks payable to SSU Foundation Inc. at your earliest convenience. Thanks!
(Return form enclosed.)

Students Volunteer

This semester yields the volunteer efforts of several SSU students. Rob Stone has been of invaluable assistance in preliminary cataloguing and accessioning of many of our smaller collections. Kathy McIntire has graciously volunteered to assist us on Thursdays by assuming front desk responsibilities, and Patrick Shea, a student in Dr. Peter Lade's North American Indian class, is enthusiastically tackling the "Native American Room" where we have stored Dr. Wilcomb Washburn's fabulous collection of books, manuscripts and files pertaining to Native Americans. With Shea's assistance we will soon have the room's hundreds of books in useable order for our patrons and students. Susan Batts from Dr. Lade's class will help catalogue the loose papers from Dr. Washburn's collection.

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